



Richard Lightbody has added fishing ponds to the Oregon Ark Motel.

## Ponds added to Ark Motel

by PHIL CHRISTENSEN  
Correspondent

BRIGHTWOOD — The crystal-clear, spring-fed ponds at the Oregon Ark Motel are only new to this generation. Owners Richard and Mary Lightbody are in the process of restoring a fish hatchery and trout farm that date back to the early 1920s.

"When I got here," said Lightbody, "the place was quite overgrown, but the entire area looked like it should have water."

Lightbody, who bought the motel in 1984, said some exploration revealed the area had been a fish hatchery from 1923 until the time of the second World War.

Said Lightbody: "The head of the state fisheries built this. He had a natural lake and eight ponds."

Lightbody said he is concerned about aesthetics in the restoration project. "Part of the idea," he said, "is to keep the old Forest Service

feel."  
"I like things natural," he added. "I want to see the land used in the most natural way."

With the purchase of the property, Lightbody received water and reservoir rights for up to 100 acres of water storage.

"That's one acre 100 feet deep, or ten acres ten feet deep," he said. "I probably won't need that much water for just a trout farm."

Lightbody pointed to a spring. It bubbled from the ground in torrents into one of the ponds. "We have about 20 springs of this size," he said. "We had the water tested, and it's absolutely pure."

Lightbody's efforts to open the land began last summer. A good deal of the excavation for the ponds was done by the company excavating RV Wonderland. Lightbody provided fill dirt from his ponds for the new resort.

With ponds in place, Lightbody's chief obstacle is Clackamas County's zoning division.

"The zoning in Clackamas County is quite strict," he said.

The property was rezoned from commercial to farm/forest rural residential in the 1970s. "It's really too bad," he said. Lightbody said Brightwood has suffered partly as a result of that zoning, and the area has been overlooked in the corridor's growth.

"The county has made the motel and the mobile home park conditional use," said Lightbody. He explained that the business was allowed to continue since it already existed when the zoning was changed. "The conditional-use clause limits the amount of building I can do."

Plans for a restaurant is high on Lightbody's agenda, but again, zoning remains a problem.

"This is an area where we have no restaurants," said Lightbody. There are three motels, he explained, with no restaurants to service those customers. "We happen to be

the middle motel, so it's a logical place to put one."

Brightwood's Oregon Ark Motel is probably best known for the large boat structure that lies angled in its front yard.

The ship has drawn much attention, and Lightbody laughed as he described his work. "I about killed myself putting that roof on," he chuckled. Working on the shingle roof in wet weather proved most hazardous. "The Lord helped me keep from breaking my leg, but boy, I got banged up."

Lightbody's vision for the future includes extending the ark theme to a restaurant, more motel rooms, indoor recreation areas and even a museum. He is considering the shape of the historical ark for the facilities.

"Perseverance," reads the sign facing east from the motel. "It's all a faith operation," Lightbody said.

## Parents pursue plans for day-care

BORING — Several parents of Boring school students are looking further into establishing school-sponsored day-care program in 1989, organizer Jan Wierima said.

The group will plan its next steps during a meeting at 7:30 p.m. May 5 in the Naas Elementary School library.

The parents will develop a formal needs survey for all district parents and an inventory of current school building uses, and brainstorm fundraising ideas, Wierima said.

The upcoming meeting was scheduled after a meeting April 7 at the school to gauge interest in offering before- and after-school day care, possibly in a school building.

The service could be offered as early as January 1989, Wierima said.

The first meeting attracted seven parents and several others showed interest in the idea, she said. Wierima invites those who are unable to attend May 5 to call her at 663-5543 or the grade school at 663-5909 to get on the contact list.

The next needs survey would expand on an earlier one, which generated about 25 responses from parents interested in alternative day

care for their school-age children. This survey will try to reach parents of every child in Boring schools and will be sent home with the students, Wierima said.

The yet-unnamed group also is receiving help from Boring Middle School Principal Marilyn Heaton in listing when and how space in both schools is used.

The group also will find out how to become a state-certified day-care center and present a report to the district superintendent and interested school board members, Wierima said.

The center would allow students to study, play and snack under supervision before and/or after school, Wierima has said.

The earliest start-up date would be January 1989, or possibly the following fall, depending on the timeline for certification, she said.

"We'd love to shoot for next fall but I don't see that happening," Wierima said.

About 80 school districts in the state sponsor similar child-care programs.

The Boring PTA is offering help in funding and starting a day-care program, but not in running it, she said.

## Tri-Met conducts survey

Interviewers wearing identification badges are conducting an extensive on-board passenger survey for Tri-Met.

Employees of the Market Decisions Corp. of Portland will survey 110,000 Tri-Met passengers during April and May to help design service

that is convenient and cost-effective. The interviewers will be passing out questionnaires to riders more than 12 years old.

Tri-Met and the Metropolitan Service District will use the information for transportation planning for the next 10 years.

## Logging Continued from Page 1.

justify coming after we listened to them for so many hours," said Scott Candland, general manager of Rippling River and president of the Mount Hood Area Chamber of Commerce.

"I think it goes beyond disappointment a little, to anger," Candland said.

Kerr said the Forest Service is managing the national forest as a tree farm. But regardless of its actions, the timber industry is in decline.

"There's about 20 years of old growth forest left," he said.

Kerr said the reduction in jobs in the timber industry is caused by improved technology as well as a reduction of available timber.

He compared 1987 and 1980, two years of peak production. In 1987, there were 25 percent fewer mills, one-third fewer jobs and one-half as much revenue to counties, though the timber yield was comparable.

It now takes two-thirds of a log truck load to employ one person in a mill for an eight-hour shift. But Kerr said a new mill in Eugene using lasers, electronic eyes and computers would require two log truck loads of timber to keep one person employed for eight hours.

"The timber industry's piece of the

pie is shrinking," he said.

And old growth forests — those forests that are from 250 to 1,000 years old — are being cut rapidly. Oregon and Washington are exporting about a billion board feet of timber a year, which is equal to about 20 percent of the cut on the national forest each year in Oregon and Washington.

Old growth forests are being replanted, but the Forest Service manages them for timber harvests.

For example, the Forest Service might replant Douglas fir, spray to kill brush species, thin the trees for maximum growth, commercially thin the trees after 40 or 50 years, and then clearcut the area in 80 to 100 years.

"It looks to me to be closer to a corn field than a forest," Kerr said.

He said the Oregon Natural Resources Council is not opposed to timber harvests but also would like to see sustained yields of salmon, elk, trails and scenery.

The group has filed more than 200 administrative appeals against logging projects throughout the state, Kerr said.

According to the council's literature, the group worked to establish the Hells Canyon National

Recreation Area in 1975; the Endangered American Wilderness Act in the Three Sisters and Wild Rogue wilderness in 1978; the Oregon Riparian Area Protection Act of 1981; the Oregon Forest Wilderness Act in 1984; and the Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area in 1986.

Kerr chuckled when he was told that the Enola Hill task force had met for 35 to 40 hours of public meetings.

Kerr said it was his guess that they had heard a great deal about new logging techniques. Task force members laughed and nodded in agreement.

Kerr called the process "over public involvement," and said that no matter what the task force decides, the district ranger's decision will still be to log on Enola Hill.

But Kerr said Forest Service personnel are the employees, the U.S. Congress is the board of directors and voters are the stockholders.

"The democratic process works, even if it is imperfect," Kerr said. But he said supporters would have to unify and make it clear that they do not want logging on Enola Hill or in the Mount Hood corridor.

He warned that the battle will not be an easy one. "There are a lot of Enola Hills out there."

Kerr told the group not to worry about what the district ranger thinks. "No matter what, you are going to have an upset district ranger."

He said the Forest Service judges its district rangers on three factors, which are safety, providing equal opportunity employment and "the cut."

A fourth factor, he added, might be a district ranger's ability to avoid public controversy and lawsuits.

If a large group of people opposed logging in the Mount Hood corridor, it could be stopped, Kerr said.

Kerr does not expect the problem of dwindling forest resources to go away. Recent public controversy over logging is occurring because the remaining areas to be logged are in sensitive areas.

"There's no where else for the Forest Service to go," Kerr said.

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## Task force

Continued from Page 1A.

logging would be feasible in the area.

Those harvest methods, along with other newer methods that differ from traditional cable logging, would require less road construction and reconstruction.

She also said helicopter logging would have less visual impact.

Walker said the visual impact of logging on Enola Hill would be minimal, although she agreed that what the Forest Service defines as minimal alteration of the landscape was not acceptable to most people on the task force.

Walker said there are some stands of trees within the area that have a form of root rot. Under the Forest Service's original proposal, those areas would be harvested and replaced with disease-resistant strands of trees. Walker said there already are openings in the trees from the root rot.

Some of the diseased areas cover as much as an acre, and a few are close to joining and leaving a five-acre clearing, she said.

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